

**URBAN DISTRICT
OF
SADDLEWORTH**

**ANNUAL REPORT
of the
Medical Officer of Health**



**FOR THE YEAR
1948**

U R B A N D I S T R I C T

O F

S A D D L E W O R T H

A N N U A L R E P O R T

O F T H E

M E D I C A L O F F I C E R O F H E A L T H

F O R T H E Y E A R

1 9 4 8

B Y

H . S . B U R Y

M . R . C . S . , L . R . C . P . , D . P . H .

STAFF

Medical Officer of Health

P.B. Wood, M.B., Ch.B., (Resigned May 31st, 1948)

H.S. Bury, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H., (Appointed
June 1st, 1948.)

Senior Sanitary Inspector.

J.H. Flatt, M.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.

Additional Sanitary Inspector.

J.M. Melrose, M.R.San.I.

Clerical Staff.

Divisional Health Office: Mr. W. Carver (Chief Clerk).
Miss D.E. Broadbent.
Mr. A. Gatley.

Sanitary Inspectors Office: Mrs. M. Hodge.

Section A.

General Statistics relating to the District.

Area: 18,485 acres.

Population: Enumerated (1931 census) - Springhead U.D.	4833
Saddleworth U.D.	12620
	<u>17453</u>

Registrar General's Estimate (Mid. 1948) : 16640

Number of inhabited houses at end of 1948 according to
rate books: 5856

Rateable Value:

The sum represented by a ld. rate : £400

Vital Statistics.

Births

Live Births.

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	131	115	246
Illegitimate	4	6	10
	<u>135</u>	<u>121</u>	<u>256</u>

This gives a birth rate of: 15.4. per 1000 population.

Compared with average of
last 10 years: 14.3 " " " "

West Riding of Yorkshire 1948: 18.5 " " " "

England and Wales 1948 : 17.9 " " " "

Still Births.

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate.	5	3	8
Illegitimate.	-	-	-
	<u>5</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>8</u>

This gives a still birth rate of : .48 per 1000 population.

Compared with average of last 10 years :	.55	"	"	"
West Riding of Yorkshire 1948:	.46	"	"	"
England and Wales 1948 :	.42	"	"	"

Deaths

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
Deaths in the District :	89	86	175
Transferred into District :	40	37	77
Transferred out of District:	3	3	6
Total allocated to District :	126	120	246

This gives a crude death rate of: 14.8 per 1000 population

Compared with average of last 10 years :	16.2	"	"	"
West Riding of Yorkshire 1948 :	11.3	"	"	"
England and Wales 1948 :	10.8	"	"	"

It must be borne in mind that the average age for the district is probably well above that for the County as a whole, the standard death rate not being available.

Deaths of Infants under One Year of Age.

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	10	7	17
Illegitimate	-	-	-
	<u>10</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>17</u>

This gives an infantile mortality of: 66 per 1000 live births

Compared with average of last 10 yrs:	46	"	"	"	"
West Riding of Yorkshire 1948:	39	"	"	"	"
England and Wales 1948:	34	"	"	"	"

The causes of death under One Year were:-

Congenital malformations	5
Birth injury	1
Asphyxia of unknown cause	2
Overlaid	2
Respiratory infection	6
Tubercular meningitis	<u>1</u>
	<u>17</u>

The last eleven of these cases could theoretically have been prevented, which is a timely reminder that there is still much work to be done by the Maternity and Child Welfare Service.

Infantile Diarrhoea.

Deaths in infants under 2 years of age:	Nil	per 1000 live births.
Compared with average of last 10 years:	4.27	" " " "
West Riding of Yorkshire 1948:	4.38	" " " "
England and Wales 1948:	3.30	" " " "

Maternal Deaths.

Maternal Deaths for 1948 numbered :	3	
Giving a Maternal Mortality of:	11.36	per 1000 live and still births.
Compared with average of last 10 years:	2.05	" " " "
West Riding of Yorkshire 1948 :	1.15	" " " "
England and Wales 1948:	1.02	" " " "

The Causes of Death were:-

Placenta praevia	1
Kidney Disease	1
Caesarian section	1

All these deaths appear to be due to the occasional accidents of child bearing, which are difficult to prevent. With such small numbers, the rate will fluctuate widely from year to year, so that this year's high rate is of little significance.

PRINCIPAL CAUSES OF DEATH

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>
Typhoid and Paratyphoid.	-	-	-
Cerebro-Spinal Fever.	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever.	-	-	-
Whooping-cough.	-	-	-
Diphtheria.	-	-	-
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System.	3	3	-
Other Tubercular Diseases.	2	1	1
Syphilitic Diseases.	-	-	-
Influenza.	-	-	-
Measles.	1	1	-
Ac. Polio-myel. & Polio-encephalitis.	1	1	-
Acute Inf. Encephalitis.	-	-	-
Cancer of buccal cavity and oesophagus.	1	1	-
Cancer of uterus.	-	-	-
Cancer of stomach and duodenum.	6	4	2
Cancer of breast.	2	-	2
Cancer of all other sites.	20	12	8
Diabetes.	2	-	2
Intra-cranial vascular lesions.	27	8	19
Heart Diseases.	81	41	40
Other disease of Circ. system.	13	6	7
Bronchitis.	19	10	9
Pneumonia.	7	4	3
Other Respiratory Diseases.	3	2	1
Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum.	2	2	-
Diamhoea under 2 years.	-	-	-
Appendicitis.	-	-	-
Other Digestive Diseases.	5	2	3
Nephritis.	8	5	3
Puerperal and Post-Abort. Sepsis.	-	-	-
Other Maternal Causes.	3	-	3
Premature Birth.	-	-	-
Congenital malformations, birth inj., inf. dis.	8	3	5
Suicide	7	6	1
Road traffic accidents	6	5	1
Other Violent causes	4	3	1
All Other Causes.	15	6	9
Totals.	246	126	120

COMPARATIVE TABLE.

	Number	Rate per 1000 pop- ulation	Average rate last 10 years	West Riding of Yorks.	England and Wales
Zymotic Diseases	1	.06	.07	0.12	-
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System.	3	0.18	0.35	0.37	0.44
Other Forms of Tuberculosis	2	0.12	0.12	0.07	0.07
Respiratory Diseases (Excluding Tuberculosis of respiratory system)	29	1.74	1.55	1.29	-
Cancer	29	1.74	2.06	1.74	1.86
Heart and Circulatory Diseases.	121	5.65	6.13	3.73	-

Section B.

Hospitals.

There are no hospitals in Saddleworth, which since July 5th, is within the Leeds Regional Hospital Board Area. As hospital facilities are more easily available across the County Boundary however, it has been agreed that hospitals in the Manchester Region should serve this district.

General cases go to Oldham Royal Infirmary, Boundary Park General Hospital and Ashton District Infirmary, specialised hospitals being available in Manchester. Maternity beds are provided at Boundary Park General Hospital, Oldham, and infectious diseases beds are provided at Westhulme Infectious Diseases Hospital.

The old small pox hospital at Runninghill, which has not been used for many years, was not taken over by the Regional Hospital Board, and has been disposed of by your Council.

Cancer.

Facilities for radium and after-care are available to Saddleworth residents at:-

The Radium Institute, Manchester.

The Royal Infirmary, Oldham.

Boundary Park General Hospital, Oldham.

The District Infirmary, Ashton-U-Lyne.

Ambulance Services

The County Council Ambulance Service has not yet been established in this area, and the Oldham County Borough, supply an excellent service in the area on behalf of the County Council.

Blind Persons

There are 30 Registered blind persons in Saddleworth, and their welfare is the concern of the County Council, who have a scheme of help administered through the Saddleworth Blind Committee.

Laboratory Facilities.

Clinical laboratory facilities are available at the Oldham Hospitals Joint Laboratory, and Public Health Laboratory work is carried out at the same laboratory, and also by the Public Health Laboratory Services at Wakefield and Manchester.

Section C

Prevention and Control of Infectious Diseases.

Table of Notifiable Infectious Diseases during 1948.

Disease:	Average notifications over the last 10 years.	1948	Removed to hospital	Deaths.
Small Pox.	-	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever	28.5	14	8	-
Diphtheria	5.4	3	3	-
* Whooping-cough	39.75	43	-	-
* Measles	148.5	85	4	1
Pneumonia	12.0	15	-	7
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis	.6	-	-	-
Acute- Poliomyelitis & Encephalitis	.5	2	2	1
Erysipelas	3.1	7	2	-
Enteric Fever	.6	-	-	-
Dysentery	.1	3	2	-
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	.2	1	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	1.1	2	1	-
Totals	240.35	175	22	9

* Average for 8 years.

Ages of cases and deaths* in principal diseases

Age	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Pneumonia	Measles	Whooping cough	Polioencephalitis and myelitis
Under 1	-	-	1	3(1)*	5	-
1 - 2	-	-	-	5	7	1
2 - 3	1	-	-	15	7	-
3 - 4	1	-	-	8	6	-
4 - 5	2	-	-	10	10	-
5 - 10	6	1	3	34	8	-
10 - 15	1	1	1	5	-	1(1)*
15 - 25	2	-	-	3	-	-
25 - 35	1	1	1	2	-	-
35 - 45	-	-	1	-	-	-
45 - 65	-	-	7	-	-	-
Over 65	-	-	1	-	-	-
Totals	14	3	15	85	43	2

*Deaths in brackets.

Hospital Treatment.

The arrangement continues, whereby cases of infectious diseases requiring hospital treatment are removed to Wasthulme Hospital, Oldham. After July 5th, the local authorities were no longer responsible for these arrangements, but the same arrangements have been continued by the Oldham Hospital Management Committee.

Scarlet Fever was again fairly common, but in the usual mild form which we expect these days. The case rate works out at .84 per 1000 of the population, compared with 1.73 for the average of the last 10 years, and 1.73 for England and Wales for this year. There were no deaths.

Measles. This disease was less prevalent with a rate of 4.99 compared with 9.3 for the last 8 years, and 9.34 for England and Wales. In most cases it was mild, and there was only one death, a small infant.

Whooping-cough was again fairly prevalent, there being an incidence of 2.58 per 1000 of the population, compared with an average of 2.44 over the last 8 years, and 3.42 for England and Wales. There were no deaths.

Diphtheria. The three cases all occurred in December, two were in school children whose immunisation had not been reinforced since 1941 and 1942 respectively, and the other case was an adult. All three cases were severe, and due to the gravis strain; there were no deaths. This gives a case rate of .18 per 1000 of population, compared with average for the last 10 years of .33, England and Wales 1948, .33.

Poliomyelitis. There was one case of polioencephalitis (aged 11) that proved fatal, and one case of poliomyelitis (aged 2) which is making a good recovery.

Diphtheria Immunisation.

Number of children who completed a full course of immunisation during the year:-

<u>Age.</u>	<u>No.</u>
Under 5	145
5 - 15	<u>5</u>
Total.	<u>150</u>

Number of children who received a secondary or booster dose: 50

Immunisation State of Child Population.

Age at end of year	Under 1	1	2	3	4	5-9	10-14	Total under 15
Number immunised	7	108	143	136	76	700	910	2080
Estimated child population.	Children under 5 1214					Children 5-14 1885		3099

N.B. The Estimated Child Population Figures have been supplied by the Registrar General.

Since July 5th, responsibility for Diphtheria Immunisation has been transferred to the County Council, and all records are now kept at the Divisional Office. The above figures are probably inaccurate, but subsequent figures should be more reliable, as an efficient recording system has now been established.

Very many children have not yet received booster doses at the correct time in the past, but under the new system, every child will be offered a booster dose every four years.

Disinfection.

After recovery or removal of a case of infectious disease, the householder is advised on cleansing of the sick room and contents, and a certificate to obtain extra soap supplied. If the householder so wishes, the room is fumigated by formalin spray and bedding disinfected by arrangement with Westhulme Infectious Diseases Hospital.

Notification of Tuberculosis.

AGE	New Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0-1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
1-5	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
5-10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10-15	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
15-20	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	-
20-25	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
25-35	2	1	-	1	-	-	-	-
35-45	3	-	-	1	2	-	-	-
45-55	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
55-65	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
65 and over	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Totals	8	3	2	4	3	-	1	1

No. of cases on register at commencement of year:

No. of cases notified first time during the year:

No. of cases restored to the register:

No. of cases added to the register other than by notification:

No. of cases removed from the register:

No. of cases remaining on the register at the end of 1948.

Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
M	F	M	F
16	9	8	6
8	3	2	3
-	-	-	1
-	1	-	-
5	3	1	1
19	10	9	9

Tuberculosis Mortality Tables.

	Deaths per 1000 of population.		
	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	Total.
Saddleworth 1948:	0.18	0.12	0.30
Saddleworth average of last 10 years:	0.35	0.11	0.46
West Riding of Yorkshire 1948:	0.37	0.07	0.44
England and Wales 1948:	0.44	0.07	0.51

Whilst the death rate for pulmonary tuberculosis is very gratifying, the death rate for non-pulmonary tuberculosis is nearly twice that of the rest of the country, and it may be that cases due to bovine infection account for this unsatisfactory rate. It is known that the local milk is far from satisfactory.

The Tuberculosis Service for this district centres on the Tuberculosis Dispensary, Court Street, Uppermill, which was taken over from the County Council by the Regional Hospital Board on July 5th, but so far, no changes in the services have resulted from this transfer.

I give below a brief report from Dr. W.B. Lister, the Tuberculosis Officer, of the work carried out at the Dispensary during 1948:-

During the year:-

46 New Cases were examined.

230 re-examinations were carried out.

3 x-ray plates were examined at Sowerby Bridge.

90 x-ray plates were examined at Oldham Royal Infirmary.

16 New Cases of Tuberculosis were notified.

13 patients were discharged as non-tubercular.

17 patients were retained on register for observation.

7 Cases entered Sanatoria or hospital.

6 Cases were in Sanatoria and Hospitals on 31st
December, 1948.

The following resolution was passed by your Council on the 6th December, 1948:-

"That the Council be recommended to approve of the amendment of the existing Points System for the letting of Council Houses to provide that in any proved case of Open Tuberculosis where the housing circumstances do not allow the patient to have a separate bedroom to themselves, the House-Letting Sub-Committee of the Council should be authorised to give special and immediate priority to such a case in re-housing, providing that a recommendation on any particular case which is submitted by the Medical Officer of Health should first be submitted to the Council for consideration so that the Council may give instructions thereon to the House-Letting Sub-Committee."

Section D. Sanitary Circumstances in the District.

I give below, extracts from the report of the Surveyor, Mr. B. Castle:-

WATER SUPPLIES - 1948

"Saddleworth is extremely well supplied with water and the neighbouring Authorities have constructed large reservoirs in the various valleys.

The statutory areas of supply are as follows:-

Company	Districts	Area in Acres	R.V.	Population.
Ashton, S. & D. (District) Water- works Joint Comm- ittee.	Delph Dobcross Diggle Uppermill Greenfield Grasscroft	12,480	£ 66,640	11,097
Oldham Corporation.	Springhead Austerlands	1,341	20,083	4,500
Outside Statutory Areas.	Denshaw Part of Grotton.	4,664	15,629	1,200
		18,485	102,352	16,797

An area of approximately 900 acres in extent in the Denshaw district is supplied by the Oldham Corporation outside their statutory area.

A small area in the Grotton district of approximately 138 acres is supplied by the Ashton S & D (District) Waterworks Joint Committee and this is also outside their statutory area.

The water from these moorland reservoirs is said to be naturally plumbo-solvent, so special treatment has been adopted (Alumino-ferric and chalk with subsequent filtration through pressure filters).

There are still a large number of houses in the district which obtain their water from wells and springs. A survey made in 1938 showed that more than 1,000 houses in the district were outside the area of supply from existing Town Mains and relied entirely for their supply from wells and springs.

A number of these wells and springs on the hillsides are subject to pollution from surface water and the surface manuring of the land.

A survey of these properties shows that approximately a further 300 houses could be given supplies from the Water Company's Mains, but these

would require extension for considerable distances in some cases.

It might also be necessary to instal pumping plants to raise the water to the levels required in certain parts of the area.

The number of houses supplied with water from the Company's mains in 1938 was 4,400. This figure will now require revision!

An increasing number of private water supplies are found to be contaminated, and it is to be hoped that it will be possible in the near future to extend the number of houses supplied with company water, as many of the premises using contaminated water, are farms where milk is produced.

For details of tests made in water supplies in the area, see Sanitary Inspectors Report.

Drainage and Sewerage

Saddleworth has its own modern sewage disposal works and a system of main sewers which drain sewage for all the centres of population. There are however, still several properties in this area which are not yet connected up to the sewers and a number of small extensions are urgently required. I give below, extracts from the report of the Surveyor:-

"The whole of the area with the exception of Grasscroft and Springhead is sewered to the Shaw Hall Bank Sewage Disposal Works, Greenfield.

The main sewer from this works follows roughly the direction of the River Tame from Greenfield to Denshaw. The size of the main outfall sewer varies in diameter from 27" at the Works to 9" in Denshaw.

Branch sewers are picked up by the main sewer from the districts of Delph, New Delph, Dobcross, Diggle, Uppermill and Greenfield.

The Springhead part of the district is sewered by gravitation to the Pitses Sewage Disposal Works which is situate in the area of the Limehurst Rural District Council.

There are no sewers in the northern part of the Springhead area beyond Scouthead and Austerlands.

Most of the built up area of the district is sewered but there are certain properties on the outlying hillsides which still require sewers extending to connect them to the main drainage system.

A number of sewer extension schemes were prepared before the War with the object of connecting up to the main drainage system additional outlying properties on the hillsides in the district.

It has not yet been possible to make a start with any of these schemes. The chief of these are in the Diglee area, Diggle, Kinders Lane, and Boarshurst Lane, Greenfield, Roundhill and Edge End, Dobcross and Beech Lane and Burnedge Lane, Grasscroft.

No major sewer extension works have been carried out during 1948 but new branch sewers have been laid to deal with 50 new houses at Cooper Street Estate, Springhead, 25 new houses, Warlow Drive, Greenfield, 12 new houses, Dumfries Avenue, Denshaw, and 42 houses at Lodge Lane, Delph.

So far as is possible all new sewerage works in the district are now carried out on the separate system.

Trade waste effluents from factories and works in various parts of the area are connected to the main sewers at different points by private drains. The volume of effluent discharged from these premises is metered at the point of connection to the sewer and a charge is made by the Council to the respective owners of the premises for the treatment of the sewage. There are still four factories in the district which have trade waste discharges which are not connected to the sewerage system.

Sewage Purification

Mr. Fisher, Manager of the Sewage Disposal Plants reports:-

"Purification of sewage and trade effluent has been satisfactorily carried out at the Council's two treatment works without complaint.

Sludge disposal at the Greenfield Works has been difficult. Pending the installation of the Heated Sludge Digestion Plant (recently approved by the Ministry of Health), the construction of temporary sludge drying beds will continue.

Laboratory investigations have been made regarding the purification of trade effluent from the Greenfield Paper Mill, which effluent is at present discharged to the River Chew after preliminary treatment.

An experimental biological filtration plant has been constructed at the Greenfield Sewage Works to further investigate the purification of this trade effluent. This work will be commenced as soon as the filters reach maturity."

Housing.

My general impression is that many of the houses in the district are not fit for human habitation, judged on standards recommended by the Ministry of Health. Some are structurally unsound, some are of the back to back type, and some are back to earth. All these should be dealt with under Section 11 of the Housing Act when the housing situation permits.

Many of the houses are of sound construction and are capable of re-conditioning or reconstruction to bring them up to the modern requirements. A full housing survey is necessary to estimate the number of houses in these categories.

In the meantime, it is only possible to keep them in as reasonable a state of repair as possible by action under the Public Health and Housing Acts, having in mind the need to make the best of every house available during the present housing shortage. Full particulars of the action taken during the year, are given in the report of the Chief Sanitary Inspector.

THE ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SENIOR SANITARY INSPECTOR
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 1948.

Health Department,
Council Offices,
St.Chad's,
Uppermill,
near Oldham.

To the Chairman and Members of the
Urban District Council of Saddleworth.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit my third Annual Report on the work of the Department for the year 1948.

In order to minimise the repetition of similar details, the bulk of the matter which is usually included in the Sanitary Inspector's Report, has again been incorporated in that of the Medical Officer of Health.

GENERAL STATISTICS

Area	18,485 acres.
Population	16,640
Number of inhabited houses	5,856
Rateable Value	£103,690.
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	£400.

STATEMENT RELATING TO PREMISES IN THE
DISTRICT AND THEIR ACCOMMODATION.

Number of houses	5,856
Factories and Workshops, Lock-up Shops, etc.	186
Pail-Closets	642
Water-Closets	4,814
Waste Water-Closets	619
Earth-Closets	88
Ashpits (covered and open)	87
Ashbins	4,420

NUISANCE INSPECTIONS.

Total number of inspections made	916
Number of nuisances found requiring abatement	718
Number of nuisances abated	722
Number of Informal Notices served	231
Number of Informal Notices complied with	198
Number of Statutory Notices served	21
Number of Statutory Notices complied with	21

Considerable difficulty was experienced during the year in effecting repair work due to the shortage of labour and materials.

/Housing

H O U S I N G(a) StatisticsNumber of new houses erected during the year:-

(1) By the Local Authority	63
(a) By Other Local Authorities	0
(3) By other Bodies or Persons	9

1. Inspection of dwelling-houses during the year:-

(a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts): 108

(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose 108

2. (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above), and which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations 1925 and 1932. -

(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose -

3. Number of dwelling-houses found in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation -

4. Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation 91.

REMEDY OF DEFECTS during the year
without service of Formal Notices.

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action taken by the Local Authority or their officers 73

ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS
during the year.

A. Proceedings under Sections 9, 10, and 16, of
the Housing Act, 1936.

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs -

(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices -

(a) By owners -

(b) By Local Authority in default of owners -

/Proceedings

B. Proceedings under Public Health Acts:

- | | |
|--|----|
| (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Notices were served requiring the remedy of defects. | 14 |
| (2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices | 14 |
| (a) By owners | 14 |
| (b) By Local Authority in default of owners | - |

C. Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936:

- | | |
|--|---|
| (1) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in respect of which Demolition Orders were made | 3 |
| (a) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders | - |

D. Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936:

- | | |
|--|---|
| (1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made | 1 |
| (2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit for human habitation | 3 |

OVERCROWDING

Revised survey necessary to ascertain a reasonably accurate position.

WATER SUPPLY

Four houses previously supplied from a private source were connected to the mains' piped supply during the year. Eight samples of water for bacteriological examination from private supplies were taken during the year from the following premises:-

<u>Premises</u>	<u>Result</u>
1. New Tame, Denshaw	Satisfactory
2. New Tame, Denshaw	Satisfactory
3. Dumfries Cottage, Denshaw	Satisfactory
4. Dumfries Cottage, Denshaw	Unsatisfactory
5. Stream, Chew Valley Road	Satisfactory
6. Lamb Lodge, Uppermill	Satisfactory
7. Spring at Sewage Works, Springhead	Satisfactory
8. Cherry Clough Farm, Denshaw	Satisfactory

Eight samples of water also were taken from properties connected to the main supply for plumbo-solvency tests. All proved to be satisfactory.

/Dairies.

DAIRIES AND COWSHEDS

Sixty-five visits were paid to dairy farms, and improvements were made at several shippens and dairies in the District.

Eighteen samples of milk were examined bacteriologically. Fifteen were satisfactory, and three were unsatisfactory. Nine samples were taken for the presence of tuberculosis; seven were negative, and two were positive.

Twelve applications for registration as milk producers were granted during the year.

There are eleven licences in force for the production of Accredited Milk, and four for the production of tuberculin-tested milk.

SLAUGHTERHOUSES

One slaughterhouse has been in use in the District during 1948. This was used for the slaughter of horses. Seven-hundred horses were slaughtered, and an inspection was made in each instance, involving one-hundred-and thirty-eight visits to the slaughterhouse.

SLAUGHTER OF PIGS FOR HOME CONSUMPTION

Arrangements have been made with the Food Executive Officer to enclose with each licence to slaughter a pig for home consumption, a slip drawing attention to the advisability of having pigs inspected by a meat inspector. Unfortunately, the reminder has met with little response.

FOOD INSPECTION

During 1948, forty-nine visits were made in connection with food inspection, and the undermentioned foodstuffs were found unfit for human consumption:-

200	tins	Vegetables
90	"	Condensed and Evaporated Milk.
81	"	Fish
40	"	Meat
35	"	Fruit
10	"	Cheese
3	"	Jam
40	packets	Cereals
1	bottle	Salad Cream.
60	lbs	Sugar
56	"	Bacon
23	"	Margarine
26	"	Ham
3	"	11 ozs. Cheese
2	"	6 " Butter
4½	"	Sweets
11	stones	Wet Fish.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors).

Premises (1)	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspec- tions.	Written Notices	Occupiers prosecuted
i) Factories in which sections, 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be en- forced by Local Authorities.	70	62	14	-
ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.				
iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out- workers' premises).	4	3	-	-

Particulars (1)	Found	Number of cases in which defects were found			Number of cases in which prosecu- tions were instituted.
		Reme- died	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector	By. H.M. Inspector	
State of cleanliness(S.1)	8	8		2	
Overcrowding (S.2)					
Reasonable temperature (S.3)					
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)					
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6).	2	2			
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7).					
(a) Insufficient					
(b) Unsuitable or defective.	4	3		4	
(c) Not separate for sexes.					
Other offences against the Act not including offences relating to Outwork).	6	6			
Total	20	19		6	

During the year further visits were made to factories, with special reference to the Provisions of Section 34 of the Factories Act, 1937. Inspections showed that these Provisions and the necessary Certificates were issued in nine instances.

SMOKE ABATEMENT

Fourteen observations, each of thirty minutes' duration were made during the year. In two instances smoke was emitted for more than three minutes during the period of thirty minutes; and in both cases the owners were cautioned. The Advisory Engineers of the Ministry of Fuel and Power were asked for advice in each of these instances, and they visited the premises. Consequently, there has since been much improvement.

SCAVENGING

During the year the Council has taken delivery of three new refuse collection vehicles, thus bringing the total of new vehicles to four. The only vehicle now which requires replacing is that used for the emptying of pail-closets, and the Council agreed to replace this during the financial year 1949-1950.

SCAVENGING(continued)

A number of outlying premises which were previously not in the scavenging area have now been included.

TENTS, VANS AND SHEDS

There are two sites in the District upon which are placed caravans and wooden erections, and both sites are reasonably satisfactory. They are provided with a water supply and sanitary accommodation.

Owing to the housing shortage, the tendency for persons permanently to occupy these structures has increased, and the problem of drainage has, accordingly, become greater.

SALVAGE OF WASTE MATERIALS

The Council employ three men on salvage work at the Greenfield Sewage Works where three paper-baling machines, and one tin-baling machine are in use.

The Tables below show the weights and values of salvage sold during 1948:-

	<u>Weight</u>				<u>Value</u>		
	T.	C.	Q.	Lbs.	£.	s.	d.
Paper	122.	13.	0.	0.	789.	0.	11.
Paper Tubes	1.	7.	1.	0.	3.	8.	1.
Newsprint	5.	6.	0.	0.	49.	0.	6.
Tins	8.	14.	0.	0.	12.	3.	7.
Heavy Scrap Iron	1.	8.	0.	0.	2.	16.	0.
Light Scrap Iron	1.	11.	3.	0.	2.	7.	7.
Rags	2.	0.	0.	0.	32.	0.	5.
Sacking	13.	3.	24.		3.	9.	9.
String	9.	3.	22.		3.	9.	7.
Carpets	8.	0.	22.		1.	12.	9.
Woollens	1.	2.	12.		6.	0.	6.
Bottles (2,582½ dozen)					103.	6.	11.
Totals	T.144.	13.	2.	24.	£1,008.	16.	7.

Comparative totals for the years 1946 and 1947:-

	T.	C.	Q.	Lbs.	£.	s.	d.
1946	114.	2.	0.	2.	709.	6.	10.
1947	104.	13.	1.	24.	697.	14.	10.

In concluding my Report, I wish to thank the Chairman, Vice-Chairman of the Health Committee, the Medical Officer of Health, and Members and Officials of the Council for their kindness and co-operation during the year 1948.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

J.H. Platt

Senior Sanitary Inspector.

REPORT ON THE DIVISIONAL HEALTH SERVICES.

DIVISION No.21

Staff.

County Council Staff Employed in the Division

Dr. H.S. Bury - Divisional Medical Officer. Medical Officer to the Springhead Child Welfare Centre.

Dr. A.F.G. Hughes - Medical Officer (Part-time) to all Ante-Natal Clinics and to the Delph and Uppermill Child Welfare Centres.

Dr. P.B. Wood - Medical Officer (Part-time) Greenfield Child Welfare Centre.

Health Visitors and School Nurses.

Mrs. M. Hirst. Uppermill, Dobcross, Diggle, Delph & Denshaw.

Miss C.A. Holroyd. Springhead, Austerlands, Grasscroft, & Greenfield.

Midwives.

Miss M.A. Stafford. Springhead, Austerlands, Denshaw, and Grasscroft.

Mrs. J. Cook. Diggle, Uppermill and Greenfield.

Miss K. Ayrton (part-time) Delph and Dobcross.

Home Nurses

Mrs. N. Platt Springhead and Austerlands.

Mrs. M.A. Lawton. Uppermill, Diggle, Greenfield, & Grasscroft.

Miss K. Ayrton (Part-time) Dobcross, Delph, and Denshaw.

Tuberculosis Visitor.

Mrs. N. Cranston (Part-time).

Mental Health Social Worker.

Mrs. M. Moore (Part-time)

Clerical Staff.

Mr. W. Carver (Chief Clerk).

Miss D.E. Broadbent.

Mr. A. Gatley.

MATERNITY SERVICES

ADJUTANT MIDWIFERY SERVICE.

Two whole-time midwives and one district-nurse/midwife provide a domiciliary service, attending expectant mothers during the ante-natal period, conducting the labour, and giving post-natal care to the mother and child for 14 days after the birth. Where a doctor has been engaged either privately, or under the National Health Service, they are available to attend as maternity nurses.

The midwives in this area on December 31st, 1948, were:-

Nurse M.A. Stafford,	)	
	)	Springhead.
41, Walkers Lane,	)	Austerlands.
	)	Denshaw.
SPRINGHEAD. Tel No. MAIN 3921.	)	

Nurse J. Cook,	)	
	)	Greenfield.
"Thornleigh",	)	Uppermill.
	)	Diggle.
Pickhill,	)	Grasscroft.
	)	
UPPERMILL. Tel. No. SADD.347.	)	

Nurse K. Ayrton.	)	
	)	
"Moorlands",	)	Dobcross
	)	Delph.
Greenbridge Lane,	)	
	)	
GREENFIELD. Tel. No. SADD.338.	)	
(Will shortly move to Grains Rd, Delph).	)	

Work carried out by the midwives during 1948 is summarised below:-

Midwife	Confinements attended as		Home Visits	
	Midwife	Maternity Nurse	Ante-Natal	Post-Natal
Nurse Stafford	58	13	419	1068
Nurse Cook (1)	15	1	135	276
Nurse Ayrton (2)	3	1	62	88
Nurse Tate (3)	-	-	6	17
Nurse Lyall (4)	17	1	112	441
Totals	93	16	734	1890

(1) Became temporary whole-time midwife on the 1st October, 1948.

(2) Appointed district-nurse/midwife on the 1st October, 1948.

(3) Resigned January, 1948.

(4) Resigned August 31st, 1948.

Only one midwife, Nurse Ayrton, has a certificate to give gas and air analgesia. An apparatus is available for the benefit of any of her patients who desire it. Maternity outfits are supplied free to each case.

ANTE AND POST-NATAL CLINICS

These are held monthly at:-

Springhead Congregational Church, Radcliffe Street - 2nd Monday at 2.0 p.m.

Uppermill Mechanics Institute. - 4th Thursday at 9.30 a.m.

Ante-Natal Clinics are to be opened at Greenfield and Delph during 1949.

None of these premises are ideal for the purpose, nevertheless, much good work is done as evidenced by the fact that attendances are increasing steadily. Though they do not replace the ante-natal visits of the midwives to the home, they enable all midwives' cases to be seen by the Medical Officer, together with the midwives in charge of the case. Blood tests are made in all cases, and any abnormality not capable of correction at the Clinic is referred to the Consultant Gynaecologist, Boundary Park Hospital, Oldham.

There are no special post-natal sessions held, but the Medical Officer carries out post-natal examinations when these are consented to by the patient. Dr. A.F.G. Hughes is Medical Officer to all the clinics. Nutritional supplements as provided by the County Council and the Ministry of Food are also distributed.

Work carried out at the clinics during 1948 is summarised below:-

Clinic	Ante-Natal		Post-Natal Attendances.
	First Attendances	Subsequent Attendances	
Springhead	62	180	10
Uppermill	29*	67	-
Totals	91	246	10

* Include a few cases seen at Delph Welfare Centre.

The Delph Ante-Natal Clinic was discontinued on the 12th February, 1942, due to lack of attendance, but is now being re-opened.

The Springhead Clinic is at the moment very congested, and unfortunately, mothers often have a long wait. The new Ante-Natal Clinic proposed for Greenfield will relieve this.

MATERNITY ACCOMMODATION.

Practically all institutional confinements in this area are accommodated at Boundary Park Hospital, or Woodfield Nursing Home, Oldham. All cases where it is a first child, or where there are medical reasons, or where the circumstances are not suitable for a confinement in the home are admitted there, and in spite of the staff difficulties they have had, very few requests for admission have been refused. In any case of doubt in the latter class of admissions, reference is made to this office for a decision as to the suitability of the home for a domicilliary confinement.

137 out of 256 births to Saddleworth mothers took place in these hospitals.

CHILD WELFARE.

The establishment in this district for Health Visitors (who are also School Nurses) is four, but during 1948, only two were available:-

Miss C.A. Holroyd, S.R.N., C.M.B., H.V.C. - Springhead, Austerlands,
Greenfield and Grasscroft.

Mrs. M. Hirst, S.R.N., C.M.B., - Uppermill, Dobcross,
Delph, Denshaw and Diggle.

HOME VISITING.

All births in this district are notified to me by the doctors, midwives or institutions concerned. 242 live births being notified, compared with 256 registered in the area.

The Health Visitors visit the child's home on, or shortly after the 14th day, and the mother is given any advice or help necessary, and urged to attend the Infant Welfare Centre. Further periodic visits are made when necessary and possible.

There have been many additional duties allocated to the Health Visitor during the year, so that with only two part-time Health Visitors in lieu of an official establishment of four, the home visits to infants have not been as frequent as I would like, nevertheless, first visits have been carried out promptly in all cases and the popularity of the Infant Welfare Clinics have ensured that most infants have been kept under observation.

Excellent co-operation is maintained with the Almoner of the Oldham Hospital Group, and we are notified when a patient is booked for her confinement at the hospital, so that ante-natal visits can be made to the home. If a mother is not discharged at the normal time (10th day), we are also notified so that the Health Visitor is saved a fruitless journey to the home.

Illegitimate Births.

There were 10 illegitimate births in the district during the year, and all infants received priority in home visiting and all are making satisfactory progress.

Premature Births.

There were 4 births classified as premature (i.e. 5½ lbs., or under) during the year, two single births and a pair of twins. All infants made good progress and no special care was needed.

Early in 1949, one district-nurse/midwife attended a course on the care of premature infants, at the Sorrento Hospital, Birmingham, and a premature baby nursing outfit is kept at the Divisional Office and sent by ambulance to the home when needed.

CHILD WELFARE CENTRES

The undermentioned Child Welfare Centres are held in this Division:-

Name and Address.	Day and Time	Medical Officer.
<u>Uppermill</u> Mechanics Institute.	Wednesdays. 1.30 p.m.	Dr. A.F.G. Hughes.
<u>Delph</u> Independent Sunday School.	Tuesdays. 1.30 p.m.	Dr. A.F.G. Hughes.
<u>Greenfield.</u> Weslayan Sunday School, Chew Valley Road, Greenfield.	Thursdays. 1.30 p.m.	Dr. P.B. Wood.
<u>Springhead.</u> Congregational Sunday School, Radcliffe Street, Springhead.	Fridays 1.30 p.m.	Dr. H.S. Bury.

At each centre, babies and toddlers under five are regularly weighed, and advice is given by the Health Visitor. On first attendance, and subsequently as thought necessary by the Health Visitor, the Medical Officer is seen. Cases requiring treatment are referred to their family doctor, or where appropriate, the County Council's schemes for Ear, Nose, and Throat, and Orthopaedic treatment are used.

Various dietary supplements and minor ailment remedies are obtainable free or at reduced rates.

At each centre, there is an active voluntary committee who assist the Health Visitor in the sale of food and keeping of records, and also provide refreshment to the mothers. They also arrange the selling of other dietary supplements including those they provide themselves and those handled on behalf of the Ministry of Food. The products available are:-

- Orange Juice (Ministry of Food).
- Cod Liver Oil (Ministry of Food).
- National Dried Milk (Ministry of Food).
- Vitamin Preparations.
- Baby Cereals.
- Fortified Foods.
- Proprietary Brands of Dried Milk.
- Iron Preparations.

Attendances at clinics during 1948 are summarised in the table below:-

Centre	Births Notified in area served.	No. of Sessions.	Infants under one.		Children one to five		Total atten- dances	Seen by M.O.
			Children attending	Attendances	Children attending	Attend- ances.		
Springhead	72	47	63	1851	252	1595	3446	782
Greenfield	55	49	43	1471	176	1522	2993	617
Uppermill	65	50	30	832	86	880	1712	338
Delph	50	47	27	548	82	676	1224	345
Totals	242	193	163	4702	603	4673	9375	2082

THE CARE OF CHILDREN.

In addition to the care of children provided by the Maternity and Child Welfare Service, and under the Education Act, work is carried out under the Adoption of Children Act, 1936, Public Health Act 1936 (Child Life Protection Section) and since the 5th July, the Health Visitors have co-operated with the Children's Officer in work under the Children's Act, 1948.

HOME NURSING SERVICE

On July 5th, the District Nursing Associations at Springhead, Greenfield, Uppermill and Diggle, and Delph and Dobcross wound up their affairs and the District Nurses employed by them entered the service of the County Council.

Following this, there were various changes of staff and a re-adjustment of the nursing areas, and at the end of the year, the position was as follows:-

Area	Home Nurse
Springhead (Lower Ward) Austerlands (Springhead Higher Ward)	Nurse N. Platt, 3, Gordon Street, Springhead. Tel No. MAIN 6371.
Grasscroft Greenfield Uppermill Diggle.	Nurse M. Lawton, 38, High Street, Uppermill. Later to be at:- "Moorlands", Greenbridge Lane, Greenfield.
Dobcross Delph Denshaw	Nurse K. Ayrton, (Part-time) "Moorlands", Later to be at:- Greenbridge Lane, Flowery Cottages, Greenfield, Grains Rd, Tel No. SADD.338. Delph.

The house at Flowery Cottages, Grains Road, Delph, was purchased by the County Council in September as a nurses home, but has not yet had the necessary alterations carried out.

The services of the nurses are now available to everyone in need of them. Nursing equipment is available for loan to patients free of charge. This includes:-

Invalid Chairs.
Bed Rests.
Bed Pans.
Air Rings.
Rubber sheets.
Chair commode etc.

Work of the nurses since the 5th July. is summarised below:-

Nurse	New patients taken on.	Total visits made
J. Cook (1)	45	741
K. Ayrton (2)	11	94
N. Platt.	29	934
A. Lyall (3)	20	268
Totals.	105	2037

- (1) Ceased Home Nursing work on October 1st, 1948.
- (2) Commenced October 1st, 1948.
- (3) Resigned August 31st, 1948.

Nurse M. Lawton commenced on January 1st 1949.

In this district a car is essential to cover all the outlying parts of the area. At present only Nurse Lawton has a car, but it is hoped that Nurse Ayrton will be provided with one during the coming year.

Demand for the services of a home nurse has been steadily increasing since July 5th, and it is anticipated that next years figures will be considerably higher. A high proportion of the patients nursed are old people, and chronic invalids, but it is hoped that as the nurses gain the confidence of the local medical practitioners, they will be called upon more often for the nursing of acute cases, thus making their work more interesting.

Cases attended by home nurses, July 1948 - June 1949.

Diagnosis	Cases	Visit	Average Visit per case.
Chronic arthritis and rheumatism.	5	234	47
Paralysis and stroke.	27	865	32
Senility and degeneration.	14	262	19
Cancer.	13	164	13
Cardiac conditions.	12	284	24
Abcess and local infection.	12	378	31
Skin conditions.	7	192	28
Post operative nursing.	7	83	12
Pneumonia, bronchitis and asthma.	8	84	10
Acute febrile conditions.	4	25	6
Worm infestation.	8	39	5
Injuries, burns and scalds.	3	89	30
Gynecological.	4	42	10
Enema only.	10	25	2½

HOME HELP SCHEME.

The County Council Scheme for providing domestic help in the home in cases of confinement, illness, or disability of the housewife, is being operated on a limited scale in the division, the limiting factor being the difficulty in getting suitable people to act as Home Helps. The pay offered does not appear to be attractive enough in this, a textile area, where there is a shortage of female labour.

Under the scheme, assistance rendered between July 5th and the end of 1948 is summarised below:-

Nature of case	No. of cases	Total hours worked.
Maternity	2	170
Illness	1	40
Old Age.	1	6
Total	4	216

One woman has been employed on a casual part-time basis, none are as yet employed full-time.

SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE.

The school population in the area is distributed as follows:-

Name of School.	No. of scholars on roll
Saddleworth Denshaw C. of E. School.	55
Saddleworth Diggle Council School.	143
Saddleworth Dobcross C. of E. School.	86
Saddleworth Doctor Lane C. of E. School	56
Saddleworth Friarmere C. of E. School, Delph.	86
Saddleworth Friarmere C. of E. Infant School, Delph.	48
Saddleworth Friezland Council School.	68
Saddleworth Greenfield Council School.	146
Saddleworth Lydgate C. of E. School.	72
Saddleworth Parochial School. Uppermill.	74
Saddleworth Springhead Council School.	128
Saddleworth Springhead Council Infant School.	103
Saddleworth Uppermill Secondary Modern School.	289
Saddleworth Greenfield C. of E. School.	66

Previous to my appointment in June, 1948, Dr. A. Marshall, Assistant County Medical Officer, carried out school inspections in the district. Since then, I have undertaken most of the school medical inspections, myself working 24 sessions, Dr. A.F.G. Hughes having undertaken 8 sessions on a part-time basis.

I hope next year to make up war time arrears in this work, and then I will be able to carry out this clinical work for the area unassisted.

Periodic Medical Inspections.

Entrants	288
Second Age Group	287
Leavers	78
Total	<u>653</u>

Other Inspections

No. of Special Inspections	- 20
No. of Re-Inspections	- 110
	<u>130</u>

Pupils found to require treatment.

Group	For defective vision (excluding squint)	For any of the other conditions.	Total individual pupils.
Entrants	4	87	83
Second Age Group	21	41	58
Leavers	7	13	18
Total (Prescribed groups)	32	141	159
Other Periodic Inspections.	-	-	-
Total	32	141	159

Age Groups	No. of Pupils Inspected.	General Physical Condition.					
		A (Good)		B (Fair)		C (Poor)	
		No.	% of Col.2.	No.	% of Col.2.	No.	% of Col.2.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
Entrants	288	140	48.61	131	45.49	17	5.9
Second Age Group	287	76	26.48	171	59.58	40	13.94
Leavers	78	22	28.20	43	55.13	13	16.67
Other Periodic Inspections.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Totals	653	238	36.45	345	52.83	70	10.72

In addition, 24 special examinations of children of school age have been carried out for various purposes, generally in connection with Section 34 of the Education Act.

Four children were recommended for admission to special residential schools during the year, and two admitted there for the following reasons:-

1 Case Bronchial Pneumonia (Convalescent)

1 Case Recurring Bronchitis.

Treatment of Minor Ailments.

Owing to the district being served mainly by small scattered schools, it has not been found practicable to run a set school clinic, but the school nurses visit each school regularly and carry out such treatment of minor ailments in the schools as is found necessary. This arrangement appears to work quite satisfactorily except for an occasional case where the Ear, Nose, and Throat Surgeon recommends some intensive course of local treatment, in which case the patient is referred to their own doctor for this, or the school nurse visits and instructs the mother how to carry out the treatment in the home.

Ophthalmic Scheme.

46 children were referred to the County Council Oculist for examination, and glasses were prescribed for 36 children during the year.

School Milk and Meals Service.

One third of a pint of milk per day is provided free at school for all pupils in the area, and the vast majority take advantage of this. All the milk supplied is pasteurised, with the exception of Saddleworth Dobcross C. of E. School, which receives a supply of Tuberculin Tested Milk.

Five samples of school milk have been taken during the year, all proving satisfactory except for one sample of pasteurised milk.

Hot mid-day meals are served at all schools in the district, being prepared at kitchens situated at Springhead County School, Greenfield County School, Friezland County School, Diggle County School. All other schools being supplied from the cooking depot at Delph.

Meals have frequently been inspected at the schools by myself, and have always appeared excellent, one possible defect is that the meals tend to be cooked rather early in the morning, in order that they can be delivered to the various schools in time. I feel it would be better if some of the schools received the dinners a little after mid-day. Food for some schools is kept warm for often as much as three quarters of an hour before being consumed, (nutritional value and taste, both deteriorate rapidly when the food is being kept warm).

School Buildings.

The school buildings in Saddleworth are generally speaking, very unsatisfactory, many being old and out of keeping with modern ideas of hygiene. Several of the schools are also overcrowded. I have not had the opportunity so far, to make a detailed inspection of the buildings, but I hope to complete this early in 1949.

Immunisation and Vaccination

Free vaccination against Smallpox, and immunisation against Diphtheria is available for all infants and children at the Welfare Centres and Schools. Immunisation and vaccination can also be carried out free by General Practitioners who are re-imbursed by the County Council.

Every effort is made to ensure that all infants are immunised by the time they are 12 months old. Propaganda material is distributed at the Welfare Centres and any child found not to be immunised by the first birthday receives a special visit from the Health Visitor. In the schools, refresher doses are offered for all children every 4 years.

On July 5th, legislation making vaccination against small pox compulsory was repealed, and since then, vaccination has been offered the infants on the same voluntary basis as immunisation. So far, little has been done to persuade mothers to use the service, and only two vaccinations have been carried out by this department.

SECTION 28 NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE ACT 1946.

Prevention, Care and After-Care.

Liason has been established with the Almoner of the Oldham Group of Hospitals, which provides most of the hospital accommodation for this area. Several cases needing after-care have been notified to us and the visits have been undertaken by Health Visitors and Home Nurses at the request of the hospitals, also Home Helps have been provided at the request of the Almoner. So far, no request for background information has been received.

Convalescence has also been arranged through the County Council for several hospital, and general practitioner's cases, and there has been close co-operation in obtaining the necessary institutional care for school children.

The Care of the Aged.

In co-operation with the Divisional Welfare Officer, a start has been made

in a survey of the aged in the area. Preliminary work consisting mostly of visits by Health Visitors has revealed the long suspected plight of many old people in the area. A minority have been found living under very unsatisfactory conditions, and what could be done in the way of providing the services of home nurses and home helps has been done. The greatest difficulty encountered has been the impossibility of persuading old people who are not capable of running their own home to consent to being moved to Old Person's Homes, and the difficulty when they are ill of getting them accepted into hospitals, though they are willing to go.

LUNACY AND MENTAL TREATMENT ACTS 1890 - 1930

The Duly Authorised Officer for this area is Mr. Threlfall who devotes part of his time to this work under the direction of myself, and who for the rest of his time is Assistant Welfare Officer, at the Divisional Welfare Office, 26, Britannia Buildings, Huddersfield, (Tel. No. HUDD, 6520). His address and telephone number out of office hours is:-

c/o Durker Rood Lodge,
MELTHAM,
Nr. Huddersfield. (Tel No. MELTHAM 341)

MENTAL DEFICIENCY ACTS 1912 - 1938.

The ascertained cases of mental defect in this area number 10. 1 case is awaiting admission to an institution. 10 are under supervision in their own home.

One case attends for training at the Occupation Centre, by arrangement with the Oldham County Borough. Five other cases are considered suitable to attend, but no places at the occupation centre are at present available for them.

AMBULANCE SERVICE.

The County Council Ambulance Service has not yet been established in this area, and Oldham County Borough supply an excellent ambulance service in this area on behalf of the County Council.

